

POLITICAL GOSSIP AT NATIONAL SEAT

(SPECIAL TO THE TELEGRAM)

WASHINGTON, August 29.—When President Wilson wrote his first note in the railroad strike controversy, that note which with frank assurance declared that society favored the eight-hour-working day, that it was inevitable, and that his plan for adjusting the strike controversy "proposes that nothing be conceded except the eight-hour day, to which the whole economic movement of the times seems to point," he was doubtless in ignorance of the historic fact that a great sovereign state passed on that question, the voters balloting on it directly, and that it was overwhelmingly rejected. It happened in California November 3, 1914, and it was a referendum vote on a proposed eight-hour-work-day law covering all occupations. The result was 560,881 against and 282,696 for. Of the fifty-eight counties in California it failed to carry one. In San Francisco the adverse majority was smallest, being 70,908 against to 49,623 for. In Los Angeles the vote was 133,704 against to 74,583 for. That is the only concrete evidence as to how the people in any section feel on this question. It has never been put up directly to them except in California and the vote on it there would not seem to justify the president's sweeping assertion that public opinion favors it by such a preponderant majority that there is no reason at all to investigate and arbitrate it in this case. Of course, it was a characteristically wild guess on Wilson's part, and it was the easier for him to make a bluff statement like that since he was in ignorance that in one state, at least, the question was an issue which was submitted direct to the people to vote on. This was a bad break for a man in his position to make. It has embarrassed his apologists here greatly, but it is dollars to doughnuts that they don't as acutely feel the embarrassment quite so much as the man who is held responsible for it. In the double capacity of head of the government and historian by private profession, to be ignorant of the California referendum doesn't add to his reputation in either role.

If the railroad strike comes off it will be virtually civil war; that is to say, there will be force on both sides. The brotherhoods will use it and so will the government be compelled to use it to keep the trains moving and the mails on transit. One-seventh of the railroad employees will be on strike, and the jobs of the other six-sevenths will suffer interference and curtailment. A nation of one hundred million people will be victims of an economic disaster. A nation and its government will be at a dead standstill. It might have been settled without all this by arbitration, but it wasn't. When all this comes about, if it does, and the government must use force to keep the mails and commerce of the people on the move, the government can find aid in its policy of force in a precedent at law established in a celebrated case in West Virginia. The well remembered Fairmont postoffice clerks' "conspiracy" is the legal incident referred to. In that case the government established the precedent, and it proceeded to the trial of that case with the object in view of establishing a precedent to go by thereafter, that a government employee couldn't quit his position if he wanted to, no matter how peaceably and regularly he went about to do it. We know that the government prosecuted that case with the view of laying down a precedent, because on the eve of trying it District Attorney Walker announced that that was the purpose which actuated the department of justice in the vigorous prosecution. The alleged offense in that case is not forgotten by any one. Conditions in the Fairmont office being intolerable, every attaché of the office resigned, leaving their resignation on the desk of Postmaster Manley along with their keys. They quit completely—walked out. They were indicted for participating in a "conspiracy" to retard the progress of the mails, and they were punished. At the time, the precedent established was criticized extensively as unsound and dangerous to the liberties of the individual. Labor union heads were not the only ones who inveighed against such a doctrine. But it stands today as sound before the federal law, nevertheless. In view of it, the question

is being asked cannot it be applied in the case of the railroad brotherhood men should they go out on a strike? If so, will the government, should it come to it, invoke it as one of its instruments to force the movement of railway mail trains?

The Fairmont case is liable to be heard of nationally ere long. It depends on whether the railroad troubles are aired in the Senate, and whether or not Senator Borah takes part in the debate. If he does, it is barely possible that the doctrine laid down in the Fairmont case will be referred to in extenuation. Senator Borah is familiar with that case, and is not favorable to such a precedent of law as was there established by the federal government. He had secured all the facts in the case with a view to some day making a speech on the subject. He is cocked and primed with it, and should the opportunity offer, and the occasion seem propitious, the Fairmont case may achieve fame in the national niche along with the Danbury haters and like local cases which attained countrywide notoriety.

Under existing conditions nobody can blame the citizen-soldiers doing police duty along the Mexican border wanting to come home. The war department is swamped with their applications. In one day, last Saturday, the president accepted twenty resignations of commissioned officers. The plaint of the men is that they are tired of military routine on a peace basis. They do not longer see the necessity of keeping over 100,000 men on the border doing nothing except to indulge in what excitements as "watchful waiting" might supply them with. They went there to fight if necessary, but as there is no prospect of that, and the president in this case, at least, has invoked and stood pat behind arbitration, they want to come back to their families and their jobs. If there is no fighting work to do, they have work of another kind waiting on them, and they need it. So do those dependent upon their earnings. This administration would like very much to have them back in their homes, but how to get them there gracefully and save its face, is the question bothering it. Then, too, there is danger, a very grave danger, should the khaki patrolmen doing their beats along the border be sent back home, of President Wilson's old-time friend, co-worker and presidential choice, to wit, emerging from his grave and raising the particular hades for which he is deservedly noted. That would be embarrassing, decidedly. With the Wilson arbitration commission commissioning, one-time friend Villa might be expected to do that very thing, too, the troops having been called far away from the Rio Grande.

It is about an equal bet that there will be no aid of flood sufferers in the Kanawha river region forthcoming from the federal government. It was authorized by resolution, but the war department red tape seems to think it is not needed. They quoted Governor Hatfield as saying it wasn't, which Hatfield vigorously denied. Anyway, the flood victims will not starve to death, or suffer extraordinarily. The state administration saw to that, giving aid without stint when it was needed at once and without delay. They told Congressman Sutherland at the war department that there were only three ways for them to render assistance: (1) furnishing seed for planting (there is no need of that in this case); (2) furnishing shelter; (3) supplying food. As shelter, food, clothing, as well as money, has been given the flood sufferers when they needed it by the state, and the government will not reimburse the state, just where West Virginia gets in under the relief resolution passed is hard to see. It will be remembered that relief for West Virginia was tacked on to a resolution which appropriated \$500,000 for success of flood victims in certain southern and Democratic states, and that the congressmen from those states resented it. Of course, politics should not enter into an appropriation of this kind, nor in the administration of the funds voted, but it is beginning to dawn on the West Virginians here that that is precisely what has happened.

West Virginia Briefs

WHEELING: This year's grape crop in northern West Virginia is the poorest in many years, the result of a blight with which they have been afflicted and which has puzzled experts. Representatives of the state department of agriculture cannot fathom the cause of the blight.

MOUNDSVILLE: James P. Lazier, musician and painter, dropped dead of heart disease at his home on Sixth street. He was 38 years old and leaves a wife and one child. His funeral will take place at Morgantown, his former home.

MARTINSBURG: Friends have been treated to a surprise in the announcement that Miss Medora Aler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Vernon Aler, and Thomas J. Crowle, son of Dr. and Mrs. C. S. Crowle and member of the Evening Journal editorial staff, were married August 6.

WEST LIBERTY: Robert M. Bonar, Jr., one of the wealthiest farmers and largest landowners in northern West Virginia, is dead at his home here at the age of 90 after a brief illness. He was the inventor of the Bonar automatic corn planter, now universally used.

CHARLESTON: West Virginia farmers will soon have thrashed out 4,500,000 bushels of wheat, according to the estimate of Commissioner Howard E. Williams, head of the state department of agriculture. Corn has suffered from bad weather conditions, and will yield about 23,500,000 bushels as against 25,200,000 in 1915.

MONTGOMERY: Passengers on the Piney branch of the Chesapeake and Ohio took up a collection to assist an Italian, unable to speak English, to his family in New York. The Italian drew \$540 from his pocket to pay his fare, when a woman seated behind him, snatched it, swung from the train and escaped.

CHARLESTON: With a view to stimulating interest in agriculture in McDowell and Wyoming counties, where mining has long been the principal industry, the West Virginia Geological Survey and the United States Department of Agriculture has completed a survey of these counties. Much land in McDowell county, it is said, is adapted to truck raising, and general farming can be carried on with profit in Wyoming county.

MONTGOMERY: Andrew Slaughter, convicted of bootlegging, created a sensation in court when called up for sentence by displaying a pardon granted him by Governor Hatfield. The pardon was dated May 25.

MARTINSBURG: United States Deputy Marshal E. W. Athey and Special Officer M. S. McDonald, were wounded when they visited the quarries of the Standard Lime and Stone Company near here in search of Jerro Nardilli, who is wanted on a charge of violating the white slave law. As the officers approached a shanty they were greeted with a volley from shotguns and a revolver. McDonald fell seriously wounded. Athey, who was only slightly hurt, returned the fire but was finally compelled to withdraw.

McDonald was brought to a local hospital, where his condition is serious.

CHARLESTON: A minimum salary of \$75 a month for teachers holding first-grade certificates was endorsed by West Virginia school teachers at a number of county institutes. Other measures endorsed were those providing for a county unit of taxation for school purposes, permanent road improvement and consolidation of rural schools.

KEYSER: The Democrats have finally filled their county ticket in Mineral by placing on the ballot for the House of Delegates James E. Laps and I. H. Offner for justice of the peace in New Creek district. Mineral county is normally about 500 Republican. The Republican nominees who will oppose the new candidates are: For the legislature the present incumbent, Delegate S. N. Moore, and for justice of the peace, James T. Doyle.

ELKINS: It is stated that a deal has been closed whereby the Western Maryland railway takes over twenty-five acres of land adjacent to the new shops at Maryland Junction, having purchased the ground from John Miller, the ground to be used for additional tracks on the main line and for establishing a grade which will eliminate "helpers" leaving the Maryland division.

MONTGOMERY: Miss Frances Sawyer's back was broken and her skull crushed; Miss Edith Ross's head was injured and a sister was seriously injured when an auto plunged over an embankment. Tom Coleman and Charles Garrett were injured.

OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT OF TRI-STATE

Latest Reports of Operations in
West Virginia, Pennsylvania
and Ohio.

The kind of wells the deep sand territory in southeastern Ohio is completing need cause no fear of another reduction in the credit balance market. The same is true of all districts in the eastern fields. Pittsburgh operators and producers are again wondering if the last five cent cut in the mid-continent crude market will force the eastern grade to a lower level. In the eastern fields there has been practically no increase in production for a number of months. Failure to secure an increase is not due to a lack of effort on the part of operators. The current month has been fairly active and only a little below the most active of the year.

In the deep sand territory in the Junction City district, Jackson township, Perry county, O., the Carter Oil Company drilled its test on the Williams Crossan farm through the Clinton sand. The first twenty-four hours after it was shot the well produced sixty barrels. In the same locality, Murphy, Murrin and Company's No. 2 on the P. J. Smith farm is proving a good producer. It is almost a month old, started at 130 barrels a day and is still holding up at better than sixty barrels a day. In the same district, T. L. Riddle and Company are due in the sand at No. 3 on the James Bringer farm. J. T. Pyle and Company are down 2300 feet at a test on the M. and J. Bringer farm.

Deep Sand Duster.
In the northeast corner of section 21, Salt Lick township, Perry county, the New York Coal Company has completed a second test on its No. 2 farm. This location is 1,000 feet east of No. 5 on No. 1 farm and is a duster in the Clinton sand. In the same district, the Clay-Craft Brick Company is down 2,500 feet at a test on its own property. In Coal township, the Jones Coal Company is drilling another test on its own property.

Shallow Sand Territory.
In the Lowell district, Aurelius township, Washington county, J. A. Dutton and Company's test on the Emily Dixon farm is a duster in the Macksburg 500-foot sand. In the same district, Wooster and Metcalf are fishing at a test on the Leo Weltz farm and the Wharff Farm Oil Company has the rig completed for a second test on the Louis Wharff farm. In the Reas run district, Willard Thornly and Company's No. 8 on the Deucher-Bliss farm is holding up at fifty-five barrels a day. In the Macksburg district, E. Headleson and Company completed No. 2 and 3 on the John H. Pryor farm. The first is a light pump and the last a duster.

Gasser in Columbiana County.
In Smith township, Columbiana county, Anderson and Company drilled their test on the Charles Israel farm through the Berea grit and found nothing but a light gas pressure. They have started to drill a second test on the same farm, located 600 feet northeast of the duster. In the same locality, the Summit Oil and Gas Company is drilling a test on the Joseph Heldel farm. In the old Homeworth district, Knox township, the Renner and Debel Oil and Gas Company is drilling a second test on the J. Yagel farm.

Few Completions in West Virginia.
Reports from the West Virginia fields show very few completions and none of any importance. Holders of territory in the vicinity of the good producer on the Batson farm in Manning district, Marion county, are taking a lively interest in the wells now drilling near the sand. Should this district fail to present other good producers the one best prospect will be a great disappointment. There is no other section under development that indicates it is capable of doing so well as the Dent's run pool.

On Coon run, McClellan district, Doddridge county, the Carnegie Natural Gas Company drilled a second test on the Jane Davis farm through the Big Injun sand and it shows for a ten or fifteen barrel pumper. In the same district, Trainer Brothers are drilling in the sand at a test on the John A. Davis farm and the Carter Oil Company is due in the Big Injun sand at a



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second test on the B. W. Foley farm.
The River Oil Company has completed No. 3 on the H. S. Russell farm, located in the Eureka district, Pleasant county, and it is a five barrel pumper in the salt sand. In the same district, the Belmont Oil Company's test on the W. E. Hammett farm is a ten barrel pumper.

Southwest Pennsylvania.
Near Fugger pumping station, O'Hara township, Allegheny county, A. B. Magrow completed and shot No. 4 on the Peter Kuhler farm and it shows for a five barrel pumper. Southwest of the Dorseyville field, Schlager and Fried are down 1200 feet at a second test on the George Meister farm. In the Fifth sand development, east of Dorseyville, the Crescent Oil Company is still fishing at its second test on the Samuel Goomer farm.

The Oil Market.
The prices paid for oil of various grades by the purchasing agencies are:
Pennsylvania \$2.30
Mercer Black 1.80
New Castle 1.80
Corning 1.80
Cabell 1.82
North Lima 1.43
South Lima 1.43
Wooster 1.65
Indiana 1.23
Somerset 1.65
Ragland 1.75
Princeton 1.47
Illinois 1.47
Kansas and Oklahoma95
Plymouth 1.03
Heldton40

Corsicana light95
Do heavy40
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Strawn95
Moran 1.05
De Soto85
Crichton63
32-34.9 deg. gr. Cad.89
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38 deg. above gr. Cad.95
Caddo crude65
Canada 1.88

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This local Nerv-Worth endorsement is worth repeating. It was given some weeks ago to Burke's Drug Store by Omer Talkington, the well known Clarksburg merchant: "I had stomach trouble and nervous indigestion. Could not eat fresh meat without it distressing me. Some gases on my stomach which made me nervous. Poor sleeper. Jerked and startled in my sleep. My sleep did me little good. Was not refreshed when I'd get up in the morning. Have taken one bottle of Nerv-Worth. I feel quite a bit better. Sleep fine. More refreshed and rested in the morning than I was ever before. I can eat meat and most everything now. My general condition is improved. I recommend Nerv-Worth as being a fine medicine."

Your dollar back at Burke's Drug Store if Nerv-Worth does not help. Healdton —Advertisement.

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3 inch 25c
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FIRST NOTICE.

In the District Court of the United States for the Northern District of West Virginia.
IN RE: John Erdle and Elijah L. Hovey, a partnership. In Bankruptcy.

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 24th day of August, 1916, the said John Erdle and Elijah L. Hovey, etc., was duly adjudicated a bankrupt and the first meeting of his creditors will be held at the Law Office of W. Frank Stout in Clarksburg, West Virginia, on the 30th day of September, A. D. 1916, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at which time said creditors may attend, prove their claims, appoint a trustee, examine the bankrupt, and transact such other business as may properly come before the said meeting.

B. L. BUTCHER,
Referee in Bankruptcy.
Dated: Aug. 28th, 1916.
FRED B. DEEM, ESQ.,
Attorney for Bankrupt.

Baltimore & Ohio \$12 Niagara Falls

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August 11, 25, September
8, 22 and October 6
October 6

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Clean-Up Sale

Final Clean Up Sale before rearranging our Ready-to-Wear Department, which will be up-to-date, with a complete new line of Ladies' and Misses' and Children's Suits, Coats, Dresses, etc., all new styles. We call special attention to the different Dry Goods items on sale. Sale starts Thursday, August 31, and lasts six days.

LADIES' GOWNS. Ladies' Muslin and Crepe Gowns that were 50c, 50c and 75c, to clean up at 39c Each.	CORSETS. A fancy pink Corset that are worth \$1.00 each. 79c.	GINGHAMS. Just when you may need them. Plain, stripes and plaids, values 12 1/2c to 15c. 10c Yard.	LADIES' VESTS. 25c values, to clean up at 79c.
DRY GOODS. One assortment of dry goods to clean up at At 10c Yard.	BOYS' WAISTS. Mothers' and boys' know Kaneo Waist, sports collars and short sleeves. Were 50c, to clean up At 39c Each.	SATIN QUILTS. A sample line of satin quilts. No Two alike at very special prices.	DRY GOODS. Large assortment of dry goods that was 20c and 25c. To clean up at 5c Yard.
DRY GOODS. One assortment of Silk and Cotton crepe-de-chine, was 50c, to clean up 39c Yard.	DRY GOODS. One assortment of velvets, etc., mostly 40-inch materials, values 25c and 35c, to clean up 15c Yard.	DRY GOODS. One assortment of silks. 20 per cent off regular price.	CORSETS. One assortment corsets that were \$1.00 One assortment corsets that were \$1.50. \$2.00.
KIMONOS. One small lot kimonos that were 79c. Clean up at 39c Each.	LADIES' SKIRTS. Were \$1.00. Clean up price 50c.	MEN'S HOSE. Men's Fancy Hose, were 15c and 20c. Clean up price 7c Pair.	LADIES' WHITE SKIRTS. One lot to clean up at 50c. Another lot to clean up at 19c.

Ladies' Summer Union Suits, was 50c, to close out for season, 39c. This does not include Munsing, which is never on sale. See Morning's Exponent for more complete list of items on sale.

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